

4/19/04



Date: April 16, 2004 Label No. EV369584698US

I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Donald S. Prater

Name (Print)

Donald S. Prater

Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: FORD et al.

Application No.: 10/621,096

Filed: July 16, 2003

Docket No.: 02022 (3600-394-01)

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Examiner: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: 1775

Confirmation No.: 9273

For: MONOLITHIC SPUTTERING TARGET ASSEMBLY

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 16, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Since this application has a filing date after June 30, 2003, no copies of U.S. Patents/Patent Application Publications are provided.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after expiration of the three-month period following filing of the above-captioned application but before any Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/621,096

" In lieu of English translations of the non-English documents, the International Search Report which cited the non-English documents is enclosed for the relevance of these documents.

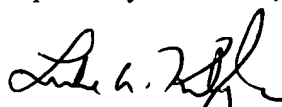
The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. *See* 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925.

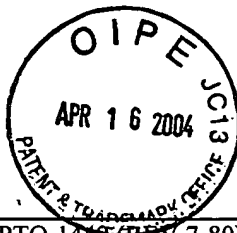
Respectfully submitted,



Luke A. Kilyk
Reg. No. 33,251

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/621,096

Atty. Docket No.: 02022 (3600-394-01)
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Enclosures: PTO-1449, w/4 documents



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|---|--|------------------------|----------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449 (REV 7-80) | | | | Atty. Docket No. 02022 (3600-394-01) | | Application No. 10/621,096 | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | | | | APPLICANT: FORD et al. | | | |
| | | | | Filing Date: July 16, 2003 | | Group Art Unit: 1775 | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER'S INITIALS | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | FILING DATE, IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | US 2001/ 0023726 A1 | 09/27/01 | Koenigsmann et al. | 148 | 681 | |
| | | US 2001/ 0047838 A1 | 12/6/01 | Segal et al. | 148 | 437 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO |
| | | 0 654 543 A2 | 05/24/95 | EPO | | | X |
| | | WO 03/008656 A2 | 01/30/03 | WIPO | C22F/ | 1/00 | X |
| | | WO 02/14576 A1 | 02/21/02 | WIPO | C23C | 14/34 | X |
| | | | | | | | |
| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
| | International Search Report for PCT/US03/22431 dated February 6, 2004. | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | |
| EXAMINER | | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | |
| *EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | | | | | | |